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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

Use Of Young Turkeys For Breeding Breaks Disease Chain

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The hens are about 8-1/2 months old when they begin to lay and the toms are about 9 months old when first used for mating. After hatching eggs are no longer needed, which is usually in June, all the breeding birds are marketed. Older males are rarely used except in special pedigree breeding and in that case experienced turkey breeders control sanitation very carefully.

Marsden reports also that artificial methods of hatching and brooding have helped in developing a sound and sizeable turkey industry in areas where these methods are used extensively. Under natural methods of production, turkeys and chickens are generally mixed, thus making the control of diseases and parasite more difficult.

Besides reminding poultrymen that turkeys should be kept entirely apart from chickens, he emphasizes that, for the same reasons, turkey and chicken eggs should never be hatched together in the same incubator, or even in the same room. Similarly incubators that have been used for chicken eggs should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before receiving turkey eggs. The principal dangers are from pullorum disease and related infections by typhoid and paratyphoid organisms.

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USDA 297 4(2-46)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Mo., Ark., La., Miss., Tenn., Ky., Ind., Ohio, Md., Del., Va., W. Va., N. C., S. C., Ala., Ga., Fla.

Bad Day Coming For Japanese Honeysuckle

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V-J Day appears to be near for the Japanese honeysuckle, an orchard and fence-row pest introduced from Japan. That conclusision is justified, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture's research administration, by the results of last year's spraying tests with very dilute 2,4-D solution.

At the Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md., research men working on plant-growth-regulating chemicals, along with weed specialists, sprayed heavy mats of the woody vine with a water solution of 2,4-D in April when the leaves were well started, and again in June. Although the strength of the solution was only 1/10 of one percent, the patches of honeysuckle were completely eradicated.

Checkups by the Department show the Japanese honeysuckle now grows in pest proportions over the southeastern one-fourth of the United States, with the Mason-Dixon Line roughly the northern boundary of the heavy infestation.

At the same time the experimenters got this good result on the Japanese honeysuckle the same strength 2,4-D killed broad-leaved dock, goldenrod, dogbane, pokeberry, smartweed, and chickweed. It also injured poison ivy and dewberry but did not eradicate them. Where the honeysuckle was killed the plants that took over the freed ground, in addition to poison ivy and dewberry, were crab grass (10-40 percent), volunteer millet, goose grass, redtop and a species of panicum.

The experimenters conclude it would be a good plan to sow useful grasses a month or so after spraying. By that time the honeysuckle will have rotted or been removed. They think it may be necessary on ground sprayed with this chemical to delay the planting of seed of crops, such as legumes and of course many others, from 3 or 4 weeks under moist conditions to as much as 3 months under arid conditions. Experience is still limited, but there are indications that the planting of such 2,4-D-sensitive crops as tomatoes (seed or transplants) and clovers and perhaps some others should be delayed as much as 3 months even under moist conditions.

In applying the 2,4-D it is desirable, the specialists say, not to allow the spray to drift onto such sensitive crop plants as beans, or tomatoes, or the young shoots of apple, pear, and peach which are easily injured by small amounts of 2,4-D.

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United States Department of Agriculture
In Va., N.C., S. C.,Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss., Tenn., Ky., La., Ark.

Hard Seed is Secret of Dixie Clover Success

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Ordinary crimson clover, of top importance as a forage in the Southeast, has the great weakness of too-easy germination. It sprouts with such hair-trigger readiness that stands of the crop often are lost because of lack of sufficient mositure to keep the seedlings growing once they are started. Dixie crimson clover, a recent development of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Research Administration, the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, and the North Carolina Experiment Station, is a variety with many hard seeds that overcome the quick germination weakness.

This new variety is another example of the very practical approach of plant breeders. It is expected that a considerable quantity of Dixie Clover seed will be harvested this summer and will be available from certified seed growers in the Southeast.

In 1936 the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering collected seed of 25 different strains of crimson clover each of which had been grown on the same farm for at least 10 years. Still other strains were obtained from volunteer stands. By testing these they found the hard-seeded Dixie which is successful in producing a volunteer crop under many conditions.

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Conn., Del., Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kans., Ky., Maine, Md., Mass., Mich., Minn., Mo., Nebr., N. H., N. J., N. Y., N. C., Ohio, Pa., R.I., S. D., Tenn., Vt., Va., W. Va., Wis.

Report on 1945 European Corn Borer Survey

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The European corn borer was reported to have spread into comparatively little new territory in 1945, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. The greatest spread, so far as known, occurred in Minnesota where the insect was found in 12 counties north and west of areas known to have been infested before in this State. The first discovery of the European corn borer in this country occurred about 30 years ago. It is now known to occur from the New England States to as far west as Nebraska, north into Michigan and Wisconsin, and south into northern Tennessee and northeastern North Carolina.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, in cooperation with interested State agencies, has conducted an annual survey of the corn borer situation for many years. The survey for 1945 indicates the following conditions:

Corn Belt areas were generally more heavily infested with corn borers in 1945. The increase was more or less general over the entire region. In only a few areas throughout the entire Corn Belt was there a decrease in the number of borers during the past year. Heaviest infestations of corn borer in the Corn Belt were found in a few counties in north central Illinois. In portions of this area the borer population averaged 150 to 400 borers per 100 corn stalks.

Other heavy infestations were found in Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Maryland. The worst infestations were found in a few counties in an eastern state where an average of more than 700 corn borer larvae were found per 100 corn stalks.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

(No. 2 of a series of suggested food conservation stories prepared and distributed FOR RELEASE by Extension editors and FOR INFORMATION to Emergency Food Program workers).

RESTAURANTS ADVISED
ON CONSERVING FOODS
FOR STARVING PEOPLE

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Proprietors of public eating places, with the cooperation of their customers, can put into effect immediate economies that will mean life to uncounted thousands of persons otherwise doomed to death, __________, State (County) Manager of the National Emergency Food Program, said today in announcing a series of specific actions which restaurants, hotels, and other eating places may adopt to save food needed abroad.

The list of food saving measures that may be taken by public eating places supplements a previous list of consumer food economies announced by Mr. __________. Both suggestions have been supported by the President's Famine Emergency Committee.

"If we as a people are to be of the greatest help to the world in this life-or-death crisis, each of us must make the saving of food his or her personal responsibility," Mr. __________ asserted. "The food will not create itself. Our farmers produce it, but all of us as consumers must take an immediate interest in seeing that as much of our abundance as possible is shared with those in dire need."

The following are the recommendations placed before the restaurant operators of __________ State (County):

1. Drop the use of toast as a garnish with meat, poultry and egg dishes.

2. Cut out the practice of putting baskets of bread or rolls on dining room tables. A single roll or slice of bread should be served

with more forthcoming only on request of the patron.

3. Where possible, use the open-faced sandwich in the place of the two-bread slice sandwich.

4. Don't trim toast or sandwich crusts.

5. Use potatoes instead of wheat or rice garnishes.

6. Bake single instead of double-crust pies.

7. Substitute corn and buckwheat cakes for wheat cakes where possible.

8. Instead of products made from wheat, serve oatmeal bread, cakes and cookies.

9. Reduce the size of rolls and bread.

10. Use fruit gelatine desserts for pastries and cakes.

11. Serve fewer crackers with soups and cheeses.

12. Discontinue the baking of three-layer cakes for the duration.

13. Use boiled -- instead of oil -- dressings on salads.

14. Instead of wheat cereals, use alternates where possible.

15. In the kitchen, practice the re-use of food fats where possible and salvage grease.

16. Think up and use methods of saving the bread ends now wasted.

17. Boil or broil -- not fry -- fish to save fats.

18. Don't serve extra dressing of salads already prepared with oil or dressing.

19. On every possible occasion, induce the customer to order only what he needs. Customers should be encouraged to ask only for those side dishes he really wants to eat.

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

(No. 3 of a series of suggested food conservation stories prepared and and distributed FOR RELEASE by Extension editors and FOR INFORMATION to Emergency Food Program workers.)

FOOD SAVING PROGRAM OUTLINED FOR BAKERS AND FOOD DISTRIBUTORS

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In an effort to assist ________________ (state or county) make its maximum contribution to the national food conservation effort, __________, State (County) Emergency Food Program Manager today made public a savings program for bakers and food distributors.

"On other occasions," Mr. __________ said, "we have appealed to consumers and operators of public eating places and in an effort to help them to carry our appeals out we have offered lists of specific food conservation suggestions. To round out the program -- which is a responsibility of all of us -- we are now suggesting a similar group of actions designed to help bakers and food handlers."

Like previous recommendations, the following list of measures that may be taken to increase the amount of food the United States will be able to send to the starvation-stricken countries of the world has been endorsed by the President's Famine Emergency Committee:

The baking industry of ________________ (state or county) can:

1. Reduce by at least 10 percent the weight of all bread and bakery products.

2. Feature smaller loaves of smaller weight and size whenever practicable.

3. Slice bread thinner, thus getting more slices per loaf.

4. Offer partial loaves of bread for sale to prevent waste.

5. Save on flour and fats by avoiding spoilage and waste.

Food distributors and manufacturers were asked by Mr. __________ to consider the practicality of the following measures to meet the crisis:

1. In advertising and salesmanship to push the use of alternate and currently plentiful foods such as poultry, eggs, potatoes, fish.

2. Assist consumers in their conservation efforts by providing recipes calling for the use of the more plentiful foods.

3. Tighten and quicken food distribution channels thus making possible greater food conservation and less food waste.

4. Encourage consumers to conserve and prevent the waste of food and to re-use food fats and salvage waste fats.

5. To use more plentiful ingrediants in the manufacture of food items in the place of wheat, fats and oils.

Manager __________ announced that representatives of the baking and distributing industries of __________ will be contacted and asked to offer further suggestions designed to effect food savings. Early indications, according to Mr. __________, show that bakers and distributors generally are preparing to place in effect these and other economics.

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture
In N. C., S. C., Va., Ga., Tenn., Ky. and Md. .

Blue Mold Losses In Tobacco Beds

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Tobacco growers in Georgia, according to reports to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, are suffering heavy losses this spring from ravages of blue mold in the plant beds. About half the plants are said to have been killed and, although there may be enough to set the planned acreage, many fields will get off to a poor start.

Specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering say the destructiveness of this seedling disease depends upon the weather during the plant bed season, and consequently the probable seriousness of the disease cannot be predicted from season to season. Last year conditions were such that blue mold damage in the State was light. Unfortunately many growers have a tendency to make preparations for treatment on the basis of the previous year. The blue mold disease is moving northward as the season progresses, however.

Reports from North Carolina and Virginia to the Department specialists indicate that a large number of growers who did not make adequate preparation against blue mold last year made adequate preparation this year. They were ready for spraying, dusting or gassing the plant beds in accordance with recommendations put out last fall by the Department's Research Administration. In those two States blue mold damage last year was heavy.

The newest practice in controlling blue mold in tobacco plant beds was issued last fall in Department Circular AIS-37, "Blue Mold Control in Tobacco Beds," It contains the recommendations worked out by the Department and agricultural experiment stations of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and Maryland.

Those who have not already obtained the circular may get it from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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USDA 829-10(4-46)

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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Note to Extension Editors: The following release is exclusive to you in your State. Numbers in the blanks refer to figures in the numbered columns of the table (attached). In other words, use the figure from the proper column, that appears opposite your state.

REA Borrowers Ready for Postwar Construction

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As the Rural Electrification Administration observes its eleventh anniversary on May 11, REA-financed systems in (State) are ready for their part in the greatest expansion program in the agency's history. (State) borrowers have $ (1) available in approved loans to finance distribution lines that will bring electricity to many of the farms and other rural establishments in (State) that lack electric service. The latest official REA estimates show that as of July 1, 1945, (2) (State) farms were unelectrified.

When REA was established in 1935, only (3) (State) farms, or (4) percent of all the farms in the State, were electrified. On July 1, 1945 REA Administrator Claude R. Wickard's official estimates showed that (5) (State) farms, or (6) percent of the State total were receiving electric service. The REA borrowers of the State are operating more than (7) miles of REA-financed distribution lines and serving more than (8) consumers in (9) counties.

The Federal program to aid rural electrification in (State) got under way on (10), when the first loan in the State was approved by REA. Since that time REA has approved loans totalling $ (11) to (12) (State) borrowers. REA loans draw 2 percent interest and are to be amortized within a maximum period of 35 years. (State) borrowers are meeting their repayment schedule fully from operating revenue and in many cases are repaying principal in advance of due dates.

In response to the demands of (State) farmers, REA borrowers of the State launched their postwar program immediately after V-J Day. Since that time they have brought service to more than (13) farmers and other rural users, largely through short extensions to existing lines. Because of the shortage of materials, few of the (State) borrowers have been able to get into full-scale construction work on new lines.

One of the chief materials bottlenecks has been a short supply of poles. This is gradually being overcome through development of new pole sources. Line hardware, transformers, conductor and other materials needed for line construction are also scarce.

Farmers who will receive electric service under this program will be in the market for a variety of familiar and new electrical devices that will aid in farm production, as well as for household appliances. Farmers who received power during the war, when many electrical items were off the market, are also anxious to obtain additional equipment. A sharp increase in the use of electricity by farm consumers was one of the chief agricultural developments of the war years in (State).

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USDA 883-11(4-46)

STATUS OF THE REA PROGRAM -- (As of April 15, 1946)

State	Approved REA Loans From 1946 Funds (1)	Unelect'd. Farms 7/1/45 (2)	Elect'd. Farms 1935 (3)	% of Farms Elect'd. 1935 (4)	Elect'd. Farms 7/1/45 (5)	% of Farms Elect'd. 7/1/45 (6)	Miles of REA Lines in Operation (7)	Consumers Served by REA Lines (8)	No. of Counties With REA Financed Lines (9)	Date of First REA Loan in State (10)	Total Approved REA Loans, 1935 to Date (11)	No. of REA Borrowers (12)	New REA Connections Since V-J Day (13)
	(dollars										(dollars)		
Ala.	$3,770,000	165,346	11,053	4.0	66,400	28.7	10,987	45,577	57	Feb. 1936	$19,093,649	26	3,446
Ariz.	307,000	10,218	5,577	29.6	8,250	44.7	632	2,269	5	Aug. 1936	1,633,000	5	25
Ark.	5,102,000	175,224	2,943	1.2	41,450	19.1	10,624	35,996	72	Mar. 1937	18,618,500	20	5,292
Cali.	185,000	10,458	81,093	53.9	122,200	92.1	1,528	4,614	6	Oct. 1936	2,254,500	7	37
Colo.	2,248,741	26,136	7,145	11.2	25,300	49.2	7,638	22,199	49	June 1936	14,223,551	19	990
Conn.	--	1,863	10,138	31.5	19,300	91.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dela.	263,000	3,744	1,791	17.3	5,250	58.4	1,047	3,414	2	Aug. 1936	1,376,000	1	220
Fla.	3,913,500	40,048	5,700	7.8	22,200	35.7	4,402	15,198	43	Nov. 1935	9,063,000	17	2,208
Ga.	7,210,200	138,033	6,956	2.8	78,000	36.1	21,934	82,611	156	Aug. 1935	31,052,309	45	5,168
Idaho	1,428,000	9,563	13,433	29.8	34,100	78.1	3,177	7,717	23	Sept. 1935	5,612,750	9	115
Ill.	4,963,000	90,639	28,379	12.3	122,800	57.5	22,012	63,667	87	Sept. 1935	28,093,130	28	3,865
Ind.	6,500,000	49,049	23,476	11.7	135,500	73.4	23,201	81,267	89	July, 1935	29,588,279	47	2,699
Iowa	11,506,500	84,718	32,047	14.4	128,600	60.3	31,360	75,756	95	Sept. 1935	40,698,819	55	6,119
Kans.	6,632,700	112,727	13,224	7.6	43,600	27.9	10,186	20,929	66	Nov. 1936	17,931,851	33	1,178
Ky.	4,062,000	187,394	8,480	3.0	65,500	25.9	14,413	57,766	113	Oct. 1935	21,515,720	26	4,675

State	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
La.	$3,868,500	118,857	2,826	1.7	31,150	20.8	8,177	27,761	49	Feb. 1937	$15,162,600	17	3,867
Maine	112,000	15,380	13,959	33.3	23,600	60.5	477	1,786	4	Aug. 1937	874,500	4	415
Md.	1,033,000	15,325	6,791	15.3	26,850	63.7	2,057	8,874	13	Aug. 1936	4,331,500	2	372
Mass.	---	4,197	14,494	41.3	27,700	86.8	--	--	1	(Extension Built by Vt. REA Borrowers)		--	--
Mich.	2,705,000	30,289	42,152	21.4	157,300	83.9	9,971	36,078	57	July, 1936	16,692,500	13	1,676
Minn.	7,679,000	104,851	13,783	6.8	92,500	46.9	33,971	76,729	84	Sept. 1935	42,450,945	51	4,860
Miss.	4,870,000	236,592	2,802	0.9	54,500	18.7	15,905	61,027	79	Sept. 1935	19,943,953	24	6,153
Mo.	9,104,625	183,250	17,893	6.4	72,850	28.4	23,512	78,823	108	July, 1936	38,678,825	40	8,570
Mont.	5,833,000	30,473	2,768	5.5	11,350	27.1	3,434	8,496	25	May, 1936	10,004,598	18	401
Nebr.	5,801,000	84,012	9,544	7.1	37,050	30.6	12,944	27,483	47	Sept. 1935	20,148,127	29	1,994
Nev.	37,000	1,713	946	25.6	1,860	52.1	121	487	1	Aug. 1937	296,000	2	33
N.H.	120,000	2,704	9,495	53.7	13,850	83.7	1,416	2,993	9	Oct. 1939	1,794,000	1	71
N.J.	100,000	1,535	15,162	51.6	24,300	94.1	415	1,609	5	Feb. 1937	668,500	2	16
N.M.	1,943,000	26,705	1,350	3.3	7,400	21.7	1,529	4,963	11	May, 1937	4,416,500	10	272
N.Y.	150,000	32,038	57,825	32.7	121,200	79.1	2,750	9,352	34	Mar. 1938	4,498,619	7	430
N.C.	7,146,836	171,926	9,672	3.2	106,350	38.2	12,970	50,720	82	Sept. 1935	27,428,824	39	4,094
N.D.	6,951,000	67,712	1,968	2.3	6,250	8.5	3,476	7,149	24	Dec. 1936	12,192,472	14	350
Ohio	2,676,000	49,183	48,048	18.8	184,600	79.0	19,646	69,171	71	Sept. 1935	28,297,993	28	4,046
Okla.	6,180,000	143,287	5,648	2.6	36,400	20.3	16,112	39,047	67	Nov. 1935	20,746,091	27	5,156

State	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Oreg.	$2,305,000	12,429	17,839	27.5	49,400	79.9	3,123	11,120	20	Dec. 1936	$8,222,000	16	1,302
Penn.	1,386,000	52,827	45,182	23.6	116,200	68.7	10,439	35,830	33	May, 1936	13,901,200	13	2,455
R.I.	--	64	1,975	45.6	2,950	97.9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
S.C.	4,190,470	80,458	3,796	2.3	57,100	41.5	11,371	38,836	42	Sept.1935	14,152,722	28	2,905
S.D.	3,274,000	64,154	2,939	3.5	8,300	11.5	2,506	5,146	16	May, 1936	6,975,300	16	326
Tenn.	5,234,000	184,267	9,727	3.6	63,350	25.6	12,465	88,931	82	Aug. 1935	19,811,683	30	9,807
Texas	11,427,900	273,102	11,466	2.3	144,900	34.7	45,420	117,957	189	Sept.1935	54,715,074	95	11,583
Utah	138,000	5,411	16,130	52.5	20,000	78.7	754	2,692	9	Feb. 1938	1,553,000	6	271
Vt.	564,976	7,782	7,945	29.4	15,800	67.0	1,153	3,064	10	July,1938	1,905,000	3	130
Va.	4,170,000	114,635	14,954	7.6	60,250	34.5	9,767	30,945	70	Jan. 1936	15,073,380	20	2,623
Wash.	2,112,000	13,386	40,060	47.5	68,300	83.6	6,365	14,814	27	May, 1936	10,575,722	21	527
W.Va.	75,000	65,732	3,647	3.5	33,550	33.8	548	1,856	7	Feb. 1937	802,000	2	148
Wis.	10,970,000	62,285	39,206	19.6	124,450	66.6	16,871	46,607	47	May, 1936	27,628,120	33	3,628
Wyo.	572,000	9,468	527	3.0	5,550	37.0	2,500	6,137	10	Aug. 1936	4,204,000	14	152

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

EXCLUSIVE TO EDITORS IN COTTON STATES

(Note to Editors: Your State has been allocated a number of these exhibits for further distribution to counties. Use of the following release or your own version by county agents will help to get maximum use of the exhibits.)

County Agent Offers Cotton Exhibit:

Merchants, banks, schools and organizations are being invited to make use of a new portable exhibit on better cotton farming just received by County Agent ___(name)______. The exhibit is now on display in the county agent's office (or other location).

Widest possible use of the exhibit is urged by ___(name)______ in order to acquaint farm people with the national program to improve cotton income and farm family living. The exhibit outlines the farmer's part in solving the cotton problem through seven steps.

The exhibit will be particularly helpful in agricultural classes, farm meetings, and any discussion of local agricultural problems, __________ says. The seven steps advocated in the exhibit include balanced farming, soil improvement, greater use of labor-saving methods, control of insects and diseases, planting a single variety throughout the community, more careful picking and ginning, and better marketing practices.

When packed in its own small cardboard case, the entire exhibit weighs under 15 pounds. It can be arranged to fit almost any space, although a space 14 to 16 feet wide is recommended. The exhibit is printed in color, and was produced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is being distributed in ___(state)___ by the Extension Service.

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United States Department of Agriculture

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Adding Favorable Factors Adds to Yields of Crops

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Increasing the yields of crops to the limit to which it is commercially profitable is a problem far more complicated than the mere addition of fertilizer or water. How complicated it is and how great are the possibilities of gain are emphasized by Dr. B.T. Shaw of the Agricultural Research Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, who calls attention to results of various experiments of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering and State experiment stations. He shows the gradual build up in yield that comes when factor after factor is added to the advantage of a particular crop.

For example, he shows that at the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station the addition of commercial fertilizer on soil too poor to grow a crop of sweet corn resulted in a crop worth $158 an acre; the same fertilization plus irrigation brought $253; fertilizer and barnyard manure produced a crop worth $439.50; fertilizer, manure and irrigation brought a crop worth $553; and when vetch was turned under as green manure, commercial fertilizer and barnyard manure added and the corn irrigated the crop grown was worth $699.50 an acre.

Another example cited by Dr. Shaw is drawn from the now famous demonstration of increases in corn yields brought about in fertilization experiments for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Experiment Station. In the area of North Carolina where the tests were made corn produces only 10 to 20 bushels an acre under usual conditions, which include spacing that permits 4,000 to 5,000 stalks to the acre; fertilization from 0 to 30 pounds of nitrogen to the acre; cultivation rather deep and close enough to the plant to prune the roots badly; and the use of open-pollinated varieties of corn common to the locality. These practices brought no more than 20 bushels an acre.

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Washington, September 26, 1946

Some Big-Yielding Oats Hit by New Disease, H. 96

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Some big-yielding oats have been hit by a new disease, but fortunately new resistant varieties are coming along to replace them. The "blight or footrot," previously unrecognized, is caused by a fungus, Helminthosporium, which, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, attacks a number of varieties that had become well established.

Designated as "H 96" by Dr. H. C. Murphy of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering and Miss Frances Meehan of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, who together isolated it, the disease has been found from New York and Pennsylvania to Montana and Texas, mostly in moist and fertile fields. Losses have averaged about 10 percent and gone as high as 50 percent. It is a particularly bad threat because it is carried over from year to year both on the seed and in the soil.

The fact that H 96 has taken as much as half the crop of certain new varieties and did no damage to others emphasizes the safety factor of having plant variety "eggs" in several types of baskets. The plant breeders, through use of breeding material from various sources, the Department says, would seem to have provided a safety factor against widespread crop disaster from this quarter. Had they confined all their efforts to the development of the productive Vicland, Tama, Boone, Cedar, and Control varieties, the big oats region would face the prospect of being no farther ahead than many years ago.

Fortunately, oats breeders did not put all their eggs in one basket. While farmers in the North Central States are already in the midst of increasing new varieties that are armed by nature against this new disease, as well as against the rusts and smuts, another variety, Marion, resistant to this disease,

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smuts, stem rust, and moderately resistant to crown rust, has been grown in the area for several years. With Marion and the better new varieties coming on, in two or three years there should be no need to suffer loss from this cause although, in all likelihood, there will be other setbacks to correct.

Murphy and Meehan find that when the fungus of Helminthosporium is already on the seed at planting time it may reduce germination or destroy the plant in the seedling stage. If the infected plant isn't killed at once it may be stunted in early growth, with blackening of the lower parts, death of the roots, and premature drying of the stem. Officials of various States estimate average losses in many fields of susceptible varieties as high as 10 percent. Indications are that all oats varieties that received their crown rust resistance from the South American variety, Victoria, are susceptible to this Helminthosporium blight. These varieties, all spring-sown ones, are Boone, Cedar, Control, Forvic, Osage, Overland, Tama, Ventura, Vicland, and Vikota.

More recently developed varieties originating from Bond crosses, namely, Clinton, Benton, Bonda, Mindo and Eaton, are resistant to the new disease. Fortunately, these new varieties are also resistant to most of the rusts and smuts. According to the Department agronomists, only a limited supply of seed of these is available for 1947 planting. In the meantime, Marion, as previously mentioned, is available in quantity from a good 1946 crop in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, North Dakota, and South Dakota. There are many old oats varieties that are resistant to the new disease, but recalling them would be of no advantage as they are susceptible to the rusts and smuts.

Farmers whose oats were seriously damaged by Helminthosporium this year are advised by the Department and State agronomists to try to get seed of resistant varieties. Where use of susceptible varieties is unavoidable, injury from the disease may be reduced, although not completely controlled, through seed treatment with New Improved Ceresan.

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United States Department of Agriculture

N.C., S.C., Ga., Fla.,
Ala., Miss., Tenn.,
Ark., La., Okla., Tex.,
Va.

Washington, October 1, 1946

Starve the Weevils -- Cut Cotton Stalks Early

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"Farmers who cut their cotton stalks before frost will make a start toward protecting next year's crop from the boll weevil," says _____________. "Cutting the stalks removes the food boll weevils require at this time of year. Weevils that go into hibernation before frost without getting enough food stand little chance of living through the winter."

The United States Department of Agriculture has good evidence to show the value of early stalk removal. The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine reports that the practice of destroying cotton stalks early in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas for control of the pink bollworm has proved to be as detrimental to the boll weevil as to the pink bollworm. An average of only 14 percent of the squares in the Valley were punctured by weevils on June 30, 1946, following an excellent early clean-up of stalks in 1945. This contrasts with an average of 89 percent punctured squares on June 30, 1945, following a considerably delayed stalk clean-up in 1944, and 44 percent punctured squares on June 30, 1944, following a fair clean-up in 1943.

"The longer the time between stalk removal and frost the fewer boll weevils there will be next spring," ________________ says. "Thus, the grower who cuts his stalks in October will be better off than the one who leaves his cutting to November. So, if your stalks have not yet been cut, get out the stalk cutter, the disk harrow, the plow, or -- if need be -- even the hoe. The important thing is to get rid of the food supply of the weevils and the sooner the better."

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Washington, October 8, 1946

Sheep-Parasite Control Increases Lamb Production

Reports received by the U.S. Department of Agriculture from extension agents and livestock specialists in 19 States show that improved methods of controlling sheep parasites are paying good dividends in the form of plumper market lambs and better condition of breeding stock. Much of the improvement is credited to the use of phenothiazine, which has been used more and more by sheep men since Department research men discovered several years ago, that the chemical is unusually effective against a number of injurious internal parasites of sheep and other farm animals.

Recent reports typical of those received previously indicate that the research findings have spread unusually quickly among sheepmen who have long suffered heavy losses from parasites in their flocks. An account of progress in Kentucky states that whereas the percentage of late lambs grown out to good market weights and finish was small before the advent of phenothiazine, now their average weight is 10 to 12 pounds greater and their condition better. The change has brought benefits worth a million dollars a year to the Kentucky sheep industry.

The quality of lambs marketed by North Dakota sheepmen is reported to have increased at least 10 percent since the extensive adoption of parasite-control programs, comprising the use of phenothiazine and better sanitation and nutrition.

The great majority of sheep and goat raisers in Texas use the drug as a drench, in a salt mixture, or in a combination of both methods.

From West Virginia, reports of farmers, county agents, and market officials all give the use of phenothiazine credit for an unusually high-grading crop of fat lambs.

Reports from individual counties in various States indicate that as high as 90 percent of flock owners are controlling sheep parasites more effectively than in previous years and that most control programs include the use of phenothiazine in salt licks or as a drench. Although the benefits of parasite control are most apparent in market animals sold by weight, the reports mention also noticeable improvement in the condition of breeding stock.

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In Ala., Del., Fla., Ga., Ky., Md., Miss., N.C., S.C., Tenn., and Va.

All-Purpose Bug-Killer Possible For Fall Snap Beans Grown in Southeast

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An all-purpose insecticide for the control of pests injurious to fall-crop snap beans in the southeastern United States has been discovered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Virginia Truck Crop Station at Norfolk, Virginia.

L. W. Brannon, entomologist of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantin reported (December 9) before the American Association of Economic Entomologists, meeting at Richmond, Va., that unusually heavy infestations of Mexican bean beetles and corn earworms occurred in the vicinity of Norfolk this past fall. In a series of experiments with different kinds of bug-killers, this entomologist found that two applications of a dust mixture containing DDT, rotenone, and sulphur, satisfactorily controlled these insects. In addition, the sulphur in the mixture also controlled an outbreak of powdery mildew disease in the beans.

The formula used consisted of either 1 or 3 percent DDT, 0.50 percent of rotenone, and 50 percent sulphur. He found that the first application of this mixture should be made about two weeks prior to the blooming of the plants, and a second application should be made when the crop is in full bloom. No undesirable residues of the insecticide were found if the applications were made before the pods were formed.

Among other insecticides tried in these experiments, less successfully, were benzene hexachloride, cryolite, pyrethrum and piperonyl cyclohexanone, and a methyl analog of DDT.

The use of this all-purpose insecticide resulted in increasing the yields of all snap beans in the experimental plots as much as 57 to 99 bushels per acre.

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United States Department of Agriculture
In Colo., Iowa, Kans., Minn., Mo., Mont., N.Dak., S.Dak., and Wyo.

Plump Grass Seeds Prove Better Against Blight

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The plumpness of the seeds of grasses is a measure of the resistance the young plants will have against seedling blight, the U. S. Department of Agriculture advises, after studies of the fungus disease in the northern Great Plains.

Sometimes called the root-browning fungus, the blight attacks young grasses within their first few weeks and also affects spring-sown small grains. Sometimes it attacks mature grass stands and in some areas causes a disease of sorghum. Its continued attack on mature grass stands has been found to speed the "going out" of established stands in western North Dakota.

Research by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station shows that in seeding it is of great importance to use thoroughly cleaned seed of high test weight. Trials have shown that the food reserves in these fat seeds build an effective root system in spite of the blight.

There is need for even stronger defense against seedling blight. Sometimes the season is such that the seed is light -- and even strong seedlings get a setback from the blight. Plant scientists of the Department and the North Dakota Station are breeding strains of grasses resistant to the disease through thick or thin -- whether the seeds are plump or light. Their breeding work is still in the experimental stage, but they already have promising strains of brome grass and wheatgrass that are better than the old types which are blight resistant and also resistant to leaf spot. In the meantime as the search for better grasses goes on, farmers of the region can help themselves by insisting on sound, plump seed.

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United States Department of Agriculture

To All Extension Editors:

Lard Coating Protects Meat Against "Freezer Burn"

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In a series of experiments conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, a light coating of lard effectively protected stored, frozen meat not wrapped in paper against drying or "freezer burn." The studies -- continuing previous research on the freezer-burn problem --/conducted to determine how best to maintain high quality in meats stored in frozen-food lockers or home freezing units.

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Meat normally contains about 60 to 75 percent of water, some of which evaporates from frozen meat, if unprotected, leaving a pale, gray, pithy surface. These changes impair the eating quality of the meat. Although freezer burn can be largely prevented by wrapping meat in moisture -vapor-proof paper, the meat specialists sought a method more suitable for small quantities of home-stored meat and one that would not require paper. Among the methods tried were coatings of lard, beef tallow, combinations of lard and tallow, and a glaze of ice. The experimental meat consisted of pork loin roasts, pork chops, and beef roasts, which were examined at various periods of storage up to 64 weeks.

Dipping frozen meat for a few seconds in melted lard heated to a temperature between 100° and 200° F. gave good protection against freezer burn. Tallow alone or in combination with lard tended to chip off and thus was not so satisfactory. Ice glaze also was unsatisfactory as it remained on meat only a few weeks unless renewed.

The lard coating may be removed by placing the meat in a pan in a hot oven. The lard quickly melts and collects in the pan where it may be left to mix with other meat juices or it may be drained off.

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United States Department of Agriculture

In Ala., Ariz., Ark., Calif.. Colo., Del., Fla., Ga., Idaho, Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kans., Ky., La., Me.. Md., Mich., Minn., Miss., Mo., Mont., Nebr., Nev., N. Mex, N. Y., N. C., N. Dak., Ohio, Okla., Oreg., Pa., S. C., S. Dak., Tenn., Tex., Utah, Vt., Va., Wash., Wis., and Wyo.

(NOTE TO EDITORS - Data to fill the numbered blank spaces may be obtained from the attached table in the column which carries the corresponding number in its heading.)

Farm Power Consumption Rises

Larger supplies of electrical energy are needed to meet rising consumption on the electrified farms of __(State)__ according to managers of the State's __(1)__ REA-financed rural electric systems.

Reports to the Rural Electrification Administration indicate that the REA-financed systems in the state distributed more kilowatt hours of power during the 1946 fiscal year (ended June 30) than in any previous 12-month period. More than __(5)__ kilowatt hours was distributed to consumers on REA-financed lines during the 1946 fiscal year as compared with only __(4)__ kilowatt hours in fiscal 1941. The increase in consumers served by the systems from __(6)__ in 1941 to __(7)__ in 1946 accounts for part of the rise but an even greater factor is the tremendously increased use of electrical farm production equipment by farmers of __(State)__.

During the war years, when farmers were assigned huge production quotas in the face of rapidly diminishing labor supplies, they turned to the use of electrically-powered machines. They learned the value of farming the modern way and are anxious to continue to use equipment such as water pumps, milking machines, feed grinders, milk coolers, hay hoists, hay driers, grain blowers, corn shellers and other appliances that often cut production time in half.

Most of this electrical equipment has been scarce for the last few years and is just starting to come on the market in quantities. As more equipment becomes

(more)

available and new farm production devices are perfected, an even steeper rise in consumption of electricity per rural consumer is expected.

The wartime demonstration of the value of electricity in farm production has created more interest in rural electrification than had ever existed before. Many rural families living on the estimated __(9)__ unelectrified farms in __(State)__ have been waiting for service since the early days of the war.

The REA-financed systems in the state are rushing work on their distribution lines in an effort to serve these consumers as rapidly as possible. Even though their building program was handicapped by an acute shortage of line construction material, the REA-financed systems in __(State)__ connected more than __(10)__ new consumers during the 1946 fiscal year. The systems have plans completed for the construction of new lines to serve approximately __(8)__ new consumers.

Plans for further expansion are now being worked out by the individual systems and will soon be forwarded to REA with applications for additional loans to finance the construction work.

Latest reports indicate that the number of electrified farms in __(State)__ has increased from __(2)__ in 1935 when REA was established to more than __(3)__ in 1946.

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DATA ON POWER NEEDS OF REA BORROWERS

	No. REA Borrowers	No. Electrified Farms		KWH Used by REA Consumers		No. REA-Consumers		New REA Consumers to be served	No. Unelectrified Farms 1946	New REA Consumers Served Fiscal 1946
	(1)	1935 (2)	1946 (3)	Fiscal 1941 (4)	Fiscal 1946 (5)	1941 (6)	1946 (7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Alabama	28	11,000	77,000	17,173,000	104,530,000	22,000	48,000	44,000	150,000	6,600
Arizona	8	5,500	9,400	1,233,000	9,609,000	900	2,400	3,400	3,200	200
Arkansas	20	2,900	61,000	6,680,000	24,066,000	16,000	40,000	29,000	137,000	9,500
California	7	81,000	132,000	4,697,000	15,347,000	3,600	4,600	1,500	5,200	190
Colorado	21	7,100	29,000	11,516,000	41,065,000	8,100	24,000	13,000	17,000	3,370
Delaware	1	1,700	6,700	1,459,000	4,535,000	2,400	3,400	2,900	2,500	295
Florida	17	5,700	29,000	3,496,000	18,388,000	5,700	16,000	12,000	32,000	3,900
Georgia	46	6,900	95,000	27,714,000	89,192,000	52,000	89,000	42,000	132,000	12,000
Idaho	9	13,000	36,000	2,929,000	11,098,000	5,000	7,800	6,500	4,700	377
Illinois	28	28,000	131,000	24,651,000	83,395,000	36,000	66,000	22,000	72,000	7,500
Indiana	47	23,000	147,000	33,043,000	98,167,000	55,000	85,000	22,000	28,000	7,100
Iowa	55	32,000	155,000	39,133,000	143,641,000	42,000	79,000	16,000	54,000	11,000
Kansas	33	13,000	51,000	6,842,000	26,240,000	11,000	22,000	42,000	90,000	2,700
Kentucky	26	8,400	76,000	15,623,000	58,457,000	26,000	61,000	63,000	162,000	9,200
Louisiana	18	2,800	47,000	5,542,000	81,810,000	9,600	30,000	12,000	82,000	78,000
Maine	4	13,000	24,000	212,000	1,178,000	600	1,900	800	18,000	375
Maryland	2	6,700	29,000	1,359,000	14,010,000	2,300	9,100	5,200	11,000	1,000

2-Data on Power Needs of REA Borrowers

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Michigan	13	42,000	165,000	16,194,000	44,175,000	26,000	37,000	7,700	9,900	3,500
Minnesota	52	13,000	105,000	31,940,000	134,800,000	42,000	80,000	47,000	83,000	10,000
Mississippi	24	2,800	65,000	26,689,000	70,627,000	39,000	65,000	66,000	198,000	12,000
Missouri	44	17,000	93,000	13,926,000	126,501,000	26,000	85,000	74,000	149,000	17,000
Montana	21	2,700	14,000	4,980,000	13,477,000	5,700	11,000	15,000	23,000	11,000
Nebraska	33	9,500	41,000	14,524,000	49,460,000	14,000	28,000	38,000	70,000	3,800
Nevada	2	900	1,900	970,000	3,024,000	400	500	150	1,400	50
New Mexico	10	1,300	10,000	2,962,000	17,689,000	1,500	6,000	10,000	19,000	11,000
New York	7	57,000	126,000	(Not Reported)	3,606,000	5,700	9,500	4,500	23,000	990
North Carolina	39	9,600	126,000	9,299,000	40,155,000	27,000	54,000	41,000	161,000	9,100
North Dakota	23	1,900	7,000	2,693,000	21,167,000	3,600	7,500	35,000	62,000	880
Ohio	28	48,000	199,000	28,336,000	94,464,000	44,000	72,000	18,000	21,000	7,400
Oklahoma	27	5,600	48,000	10,021,000	35,560,000	17,000	42,000	37,000	119,000	9,300
Oregon	15	17,000	56,000	2,003,000	21,162,000	3,200	11,000	5,000	7,000	1,777
Pennsylvania	13	45,000	128,000	12,815,000	39,858,000	22,000	38,000	8,000	43,000	5,100
South Carolina	28	3,700	65,000	9,625,000	31,660,000	20,000	41,000	17,000	21,000	6,100
South Dakota	23	2,900	9,000	1,247,000	6,469,000	2,400	5,300	33,000	59,000	560
Tennessee	30	9,700	71,000	91,242,000	235,936,000	48,000	104,000	58,000	164,000	12,000
Texas	97	11,000	168,000	31,389,000	134,920,000	61,000	128,000	80,000	222,000	24,000
Utah	6	16,000	21,000	700,000	1,761,000	1,600	2,800	750	4,700	440

3-Data on Power Needs of REA Borrowers

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Vermont	3	7,900	19,000	390,000	3,856,000	1,200	3,200	1,300	6,500	390
Virginia	20	14,000	72,000	12,447,000	37,595,000	1,900	34,000	27,000	100,000	6,400
Washington	22	40,000	69,000	5,398,000	40,166,000	7,900	15,000	9,300	10,000	1,500
Wisconsin	33	39,000	136,000	30,354,000	135,126,000	26,000	49,000	21,000	41,000	7,200
Wyoming	16	500	6,500	3,061,000	8,905,000	3,400	6,400	5,600	5,900	520

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United States Department of Agriculture

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In all states

Even a Good Potato Can't Do it All

Potato growers make a mistake in growing the new varieties in the same old way. This is one reason, say potato specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, why now and then one of the new ones does not take on as fast as it should. When a farmer begins growing a recommended new one, they say, he will do well to find out what its cultural peculiarities are so he can cater to them.

Because a new variety is known to be resistant to an important disease, many growers conclude there is no need to spray. Result: whatever susceptibility there is lets in the disease and some other diseases too may make the most of the opportunity. Some varieties require wider spacing than others or may do with narrower. Disregard of such factors means neglect of opportunity for gain. Some require more careful handling than others and, if they don't get it, there is excessive loss in storage and the tubers lose sale appeal. Some do best if planted earlier than the best time for the old variety and some prefer a warmer bed to start in.

Scientists in the National Potato Breeding Program say the new potato Sebago, introduced in 1938, has so many resistances and other good points that it has been used in places where no potato could be expected to produce well. As a result of abounding good qualities, therefore, Sebago has suffered a setback in popularity in some sections that is undeserved.

The specialists say no potato is good enough to hoe its own row.

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